

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1. A printing system comprising:  
2              an ink dispenser configured to deposit ink upon a print medium; and  
3              a condenser configured to condense vapor into a condensate;  
4              a receptacle configured to collect the condensate, wherein the receptacle is  
5              perforated to permit a portion of the condensate to evaporate.

1        2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the condenser includes:  
2              a conduit having a conduit interior; and  
3              a coolant source connected to the conduit and configured to supply coolant  
4              into the conduit interior at a temperature so as to condense the vapor along the conduit.

1        3. The system of Claim 2, wherein the coolant source is configured to supply a  
2              liquid at a temperature so as to condense the vapor along the conduit.

1        4. The system of Claim 2, wherein the coolant source is configured to supply a  
2              gas at a temperature so as to condense the vapor along the conduit.

1        5. The system of Claim 2, wherein the condenser includes a fin thermally  
2              coupled to the conduit.

1        6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the receptacle includes an inlet and means for  
2              automatically occluding the inlet when disconnected from a remainder of the printing system.

1        7. The system of Claim 2, wherein the coolant source includes:  
2              a pump configured to move fluid; and  
3              a cooling device configured to cool the fluid to the temperature.

1        8. The system of Claim 7, wherein the cooling device includes a compressor.

1        9. The system of Claim 1, wherein the condenser includes a thermoelectric  
2              module.

1        10. The system of Claim 1 including a blower configured to move the vapor along  
2              the condenser.

- 1        11.      The system of Claim 10 including:
  - 2                  a duct proximate the condenser and having an exhaust opening; and
  - 3                  a filter between the condenser and the exhaust opening.
- 1        12.      The system of Claim 1, wherein the receptacle includes a condensate-absorbing material within the receptacle.
- 1        13.      The system of Claim 12, wherein the condensate-absorbing material is removable from the receptacle.
- 1        14.      The system of Claim 12, wherein the condensate-absorbing material comprises a foam.
- 1        15.      The system of Claim 1, wherein the receptacle includes:
  - 2                  an inlet through which the condensate flows into the receptacle; and
  - 3                  a closing portion movable between an inlet open position and an inlet closing position.
- 1        16.      The system of Claim 15, wherein the receptacle is removably coupled to a remainder of the system.
- 1        17.      The system of Claim 1, wherein the receptacle includes a fill indicator configured to indicate a volume of the receptacle that is filled with condensate.
- 1        18.      The system of Claim 1, wherein the ink dispenser includes an inkjet printhead.
- 1        19.      The system of Claim 1 including a media handling system configured to transport individual sheets of material relative to the ink dispenser.
- 1        20.      The system of Claim 19, wherein the media handling system is configured to handle sheets of material having a minor dimension less than 9 inches.
- 1        21.      The system of Claim 19, wherein the handling system is configured to stack the individual printed upon sheets.
- 1        22.      The system of Claim 1 including a heater configured to heat the deposited ink, whereby vapor is produced.

1       23. A condensate storage system comprising:

2              a receptacle having an inlet; and

3              a condensate-absorbing member within the receptacle.

1       24. The system of Claim 23, wherein the receptacle is perforate to permit a portion

2       of the condensate to evaporate.

1       25. The system of Claim 23, wherein the receptacle and the condensate-absorbing

2       member are configured to permit removal of the absorbing member from the receptacle.

1       26. The system of Claim 23, wherein the system is configured for use in a printing

2       system having an outer housing and wherein the receptacle is configured to be removably

3       received within the housing.

1       27. A printing system comprising:

2              means for depositing ink upon a print medium;

3              means for condensing vapor to form a condensate; and

4              means for storing the condensate, wherein the means for storing includes an  
5              inlet and means for automatically occluding the inlet when disconnected from  
6              a remainder of the printing system.

1       28. The system of Claim 27 including means for storing includes means for

2       evaporating a portion of the condensate while the condensate is being stored.

1       29. The system of Claim 27 including means for heating the deposited ink,

2       whereby vapor is formed.

1       30. A method of printing ink upon a medium, the method comprising:

2              depositing ink upon the medium;

3              heating the deposited ink to create a vapor;

4              condensing the vapor into a condensate;

5              collecting the condensate in a first receptacle; and

6              absorbing at least a portion of the condensate into a first absorption member

7              within the first receptacle.

1       31.   The method of Claim 30 including circulating a fluid through a thermally  
2 conductive conduit having a condensing surface to cool the condensing surface to a  
3 temperature to condense the vapor.

1       32.   The method of Claim 30 including powering a thermoelectric module having a  
2 cool portion and a hot portion, wherein the cool portion is thermally coupled to a condensing  
3 surface along which the vapor is condensed.

1       33.   The method of Claim 40 including evaporating a portion of the condensate  
2 within the first receptacle.

1       34.   The method of Claim 30 including replacing the first absorption member with  
2 a second absorption member.

1       35.   The method of Claim 30 including replacing the first receptacle with a second  
2 receptacle when at least a portion of the first receptacle is filled with condensate.

1       36.   The method of Claim 30 including sending the first receptacle at least partially  
2 filled with the condensate to a collection entity for recycling or disposal of the condensate.

1       37.   The method of Claim 30 including sensing an amount of condensate within the  
2 first receptacle.

1       38.   The method of Claim 30 including directing the vapor across a condensing  
2 surface and through a filter.

1       39.   The method of Claim 30, wherein the step of depositing ink includes ejecting  
2 ink from an inkjet printhead upon the medium.